

Message Text

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ACTION SP-02

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-04 INR-07 L-03
ACDA-07 NSAE-00 PA-01 SS-15 PRS-01 USIA-06
TRSE-00 DODE-00 NSC-05 /064 W
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FM AMEMBASSY ANKARA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7499
INFO AMCONSUL ISTANBUL
USMISSION NATO

C O N F I D E N T I A L ANKARA 3714

FOR S/P

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, NATO, TU
SUBJ: APAG ARRANGEMENTS

REF: A) STATE 103714, B) STATE 105160

1. WE HAVE GIVEN U.S. DISCUSSION PAPER AND LIST OF U.S. PARTICIPANTS IN APAG MEETING TO NEJAT AYDIN, MFA DIRECTOR GENERAL FOR RESEARCH AND POLICY PLANNING, WHO IS IN CHARGE OF PREPARATIONS FOR ISTANBUL APAG MEETING. AYDIN WAS MOST APPRECIATIVE. HE ASKED THAT WE CONVEY HIS HOPE THAT S/P DIRECTOR LAKE WOULD BE ABLE TO ATTEND LUNCH GIVEN BY MFA SEC GEN ELEKDAG AT 1:00 P.M WEDNESDAY, MAY 25. AYDIN ALSO NOTED THAT TURKISH EMBASSY WASHINGTON HAD REPORTED A MONTH EARLIER THAT U.S. DELEGATION WOULD HAVE FOUR MEMBERS, AND HOTEL SPACE HAD BEEN RESERVED ACCORDINGLY. BECAUSE OF TIGHTNESS OF HOTEL RESERVATIONS, AYDIN ASKED THAT WE CONFIRM WHETHER THERE WAS ANY POSSIBILITY THAT A FOURTH MEMBER MIGHT BE ADDED TO HE DELEGATION.

2. AYDIN SAID THAT THERE HAD BEEN NO FINAL DECISION
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ON COMPOSITION OF TURKISH DELEGATION, BUT THAT HE BELIEVED IT WOULD CONSIST OF HIMSELF AND ERDOGAN SANALAN, DIRECTOR OF THE MFA'S POLICY PLANNING OFFICE, WITH THE POSSIBLE ADDITION OF A THIRD.

3. AYDIN CONFIRMED THAT THE GOT WOULD BE RESPONSIBLE FOR ALL HOTEL ACCOMMODATIONS AND MEALS DURING THE CONFERENCE, AS

WELL AS TRANSPORTATION RELATED TO THE CONFERENCE, WITH THE EXCEPTION THAT GOT WOULD NOT BE ABLE TO MEET PARTICIPANTS ON ARRIVAL OR TAKE THEM TO THE AIRPORT AFTER COMPLETION OF THE CONFERENCE. HER REMAINDER WAS THAT THE FACT OF THE MEETING ITSELF SHOULD BE KEPT FROM THE PRESS.

4. BIOGRAPHIC INFORMATION ON TENTATIVE TURKISH DELEGATION:

A. NEJAT AYDIN: WE HAVE NOT FOUND AYDIN TO BE ONE OF THE BEST REPRESENTATIVES OF TURKEY'S DIPLOMATIC SERVICE. HIS GRASP OF POLICY AND HIS ABILITY TO GET TO THE HEART OF A PROBLEM ARE LESS THAN MIGHT BE EXPECTED IN HIS POSITION. HOWEVER, HE IS FRIENDLY AND COOPERATIVE AND EVIDENTLY DESIRES TO DO THE BEST JOB POSSIBLE IN MANAGING THE APAG MEETING. HE IS 49 YEARS OLD AND HAS ALMOST 29 YEARS OF SERVICE IN THE FOREIGN MINISTRY, WITH OVERSEAS EXPERIENCE IN BELGRADE, ATHENS, BERLIN, KHARTOUM AND THE HAGUE. HE SPEAKS ENGLISH, FRENCH AND GERMAN. HE HAS LOST THE SIGHT OF HIS RIGHT EYE. HE WAS BROUGHT INTO HIS PRESENT POSITION IN LATE 1976 FOLLOWING A REORGANIZATION OF THE MFA, IN WHICH HIS PREVIOUS JOB HAD BEEN AS DIRECTOR OF THE OFFICE DEALING WITH COUNCIL OF EUROPE AFFAIRS.

B. ERDOGAN SANALAN: ALSO FAIRLY NEW AT HIS JOB, SANALAN IS ABOUT 40 YEARS OLD AND HAS SERVED OVERSEAS IN BEIRUT AND ATHENS. IN THE MINISTRY, HE HAS DEVELOPED A STRONG BACKGROUND OF EXPERIENCE IN MUTUAL SECURITY AFFAIRS. BERGUS

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Decaption Note:
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
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